CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the Claims: Please amend claim 11 as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An ingestible product for improving immune function in mammals, comprising a strain selected according to claim 11, said product formulated according to claim 11, wherein the strain has the capability of increasing the number of CD4+ lymphocytes and has good toxin binding and a good toxin neutralizing effect when administered to a mammal.
3. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a food containing cells of the selected strain.
4. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a tablet containing cells of the selected strain.
5. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a dietary supplement containing cells of the selected strain.
6. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a confectionery containing cells of the selected strain.
7. (Previously submitted) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as an oral drug containing cells of the selected strain for improving the immune-function of a patient.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Withdrawn) A method for improving immune-function in mammals using *Lactobacillus reuteri* strains in products containing cells of such strains, comprising: using strains that
    a. exhibit good toxin binding and neutralizing effect;
    b. and exhibit good CD4+ cell recruitment.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method of producing an ingestible ~~a~~ product for improving immune-function in mammals, comprising:

a. determining the cytotoxic activity of strains of *Lactobacillus reuteri* by evaluating supernatants for good toxin binding and a toxin neutralizing effect, said supernatants obtained from growing each strain of *Lactobacillus reuteri* in suitable host cells,
b. selecting strains of *Lactobacillus reuteri* having a good toxin binding and toxin neutralizing effect,
c. testing cells of the selected strains of *Lactobacillus reuteri* for immunomodulating activity by testing for an increase in the number of CD4+ lymphocytes in tissue samples from a test mammal to which the strains have been administered, and
d. formulating the product to contain cells of a strain of *Lactobacillus reuteri* having an increase in the number of CD4+ lymphocytes in the samples from the test mammal.

12. (Withdrawn) A product comprising the culture supernatant of *Lactobacillus reuteri* strain ATCC55730 having the capability of increasing the number of CD4+ lymphocytes and has good toxin binding and a good toxin neutralizing effect when administered to a mammal.